Character Ed Meeting

January 10, 2013

* District Expectation to incorporate character ed
* Review active service learning program – Christa
  + Ground work is being laid this year
  + Some groups may have already started something
  + Food drive very successful – great advertising and classes doing different things in the classroom (graphing, setting goals)
  + Second grade needs to finalize plans – perhaps a book drive or placemats for Meals on Wheels – Jan Barnes has contact information
  + Fourth grade still deciding what they are going to do – perhaps to use DVDs they no longer watch to go to local hospital
  + Fifth grade is doing socks for Haven for Hope – waiting until later in the year
  + Snowflakes for Connecticut were sent off earlier this year
  + HEIGHTS (fourth and fifth grade) does it four times during the year – talent show, holiday sing, patriotic sing and pet day at local nursing home
  + First grade doing SNIPSA – Jessica Press in charge – pet collection
  + Third grade doing tabs for Ronald McDonald House
* Learn more about the mentorship program – Maria
  + Establish one-on-one type relationship
  + Looking for a local business to partner up with to single out students to have on-going relationships
  + Perhaps looking for high school students to participate – ROTC students to perhaps participate if asked
  + High school kids need service hours
  + Look into opportunity for mentors to come in before school when kids are in the cafeteria or in the gyms before school
  + OASIS mentors – generally 55 or older - come with own materials, mostly former teachers – working with grades 1 – 3
  + Largest issue is looking into getting more male mentors
  + Perhaps teachers, faculty or staff to work with students
  + Share with teams to see if they have mentorship opportunities
  + Any adult would need to complete criminal background check – students in school do not need to complete
* Review purpose and roles
* Explore Wiki Space – Amy
  + Only people on the committee will be able to edit the Wiki
  + Get on grade level agenda once a month to see what is being done to share ideas
  + The end goal would also be to collect artifacts of how character ed is being integrated
* Principle 3 – a comprehensive, intentional and proactive approach to character ed
* are we all putting character keys in the treasure box on a consistent basis? – Jenny does five at the end of each week rather than giving awards as she used to do in previous years
* Next steps
  + Next meeting – February 14 or 15 at same time
  + David to send link with slideshow
  + Get wiki going next month to show how character keys are being integrated into lessons
  + Mentorship ideas
  + Team members to see if any grade level teachers do not have plastic character keys in the room